

Department of Genetics  
University of Wisconsin  
Madison 6, Wisconsin

April 18, 1952

Dear Dr. Spicer:

There are a few questions about your proposed fellowship visit that ought to be cleared up before fixing definite plans. First of all, how long would you like to work here? You mentioned a period of 3 - 6 months for the fellowship. Were you thinking of spending most of that time here, or did you contemplate travelling a bit? An interval of 4, perhaps 5, months would be most likely to be productive.

As to starting time, it is a matter of probabilities. Some time this summer or fall, depending on construction schedules in an another building, we are due for some additional space. This itself would require some remodelling of our present facilities. It would be unfortunate if this happened to coincide with your visit, and I mentioned an advanced date so as to minimize this possibility. If you are willing to take your chances, you will be welcome if you can only conveniently manage an earlier date. We could probably manage six square feet, but of course there's more to it than that.

With respect to possible problems, there would be least likelihood of collision with other work likely to be developed here, or by Zinder at his new station after this spring, if we look for the recombination system in other Salmonellas. I thought of *S. thompson* because of the variety of lysogenic forms worked out by Williams-Smith. Can you obtain access to a representative set? A similar group in typhimurium (after Lilleengen) was quite invaluable. Your typhimurium x potsdam would be quite interesting if it can be extended to other markers. Our transduction system appears to be confined to the XII<sub>2</sub> types, but we hardly know enough yet to make any strict generalizations. Have you any further details on this cross since your earlier letters on the subject? If they would be of any help to you, we could probably provide some auxotrophs from *S. typhimurium*, or an S<sup>+</sup> auxotroph for "SRP" testing for recombination. Or would you prefer to work them up yourself?

Yours sincerely,  
Joshua Lederberg

Associate Professor of Genetics